

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended Herein) A control mechanism for timepiece of the type comprising a frame (10) furnished with two parallel faces defining a reference plane, one of which is intended to support a dial and the other is opposite the back, and, secured to this frame:
  - a control rod (12) furnished with an annular groove (14) having a width  $l$ , an external diameter  $D$  and an internal diameter  $d$ , mounted so as to move in translation on the frame (10) along a first axis (AA') included in said plane, and
  - a retaining plate (20) mounted, on the back side, on the frame (10) parallel to said plane and comprising a locking piece (22) mounted so as to rotate about a second axis (BB') perpendicular to the reference plane and arranged such that it is capable of occupying:
    - a first position, called the locking position, in which the translation movement of said rod (12) is limited by the engagement of the locking piece (22) in the groove (14), and
    - a second position, called the unlocking position, in which said locking piece (22) is no longer engaged in the groove (14) thus allowing the rod (12) to be pushed in on the frame (10) or pulled out,  
characterized in that said locking piece (22) comprises:
      - a first part (26) of general cylindrical form, engaged in the retaining plate (20) in order to allow its rotation on the plate;
      - a second part (34) disposed on the side opposite to the rod (12) and arranged to allow said locking piece (22) to rotate, and
      - a third part (38), disposed on the side of the rod (12), intended to interact with it and comprising, for this purpose, two wings (40) inscribed in a dummy cylinder of the same axis as the second axis (BB') and of slightly

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smaller diameter than the width  $l$  of the groove (14), said wings being arranged such that, in the locking position, the wings (40) are at least partly inscribed in the space between the external diameter  $D$  of the groove (14) and ~~espouse the contour of~~ the internal diameter  $d$  and, in the unlocking position, the wings (40) ~~espouse~~ take on the contour of the external diameter  $D$ .

2. (Original) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the control rod (12) is a time-setting rod and in that the retaining plate (20) is a pull-out.
3. (Original) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the pull-out (20) can move in translation.
4. (Original) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the time-setting rod (12) terminates in a gear (16) which is integral therewith in rotation and in translation.
5. (Previously Presented) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said locking piece (22) comprises positioning means ensuring that it is retained in the locked and unlocked positions.
6. (Original) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by a frictional engagement of a part (26) of the locking piece (22) on the retaining plate (20).
7. (Amended Herein) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by the wings (40) which extend on the sides of the groove (14) beyond its bottom, and whose free end takes on ~~espouses~~, in the locked position, the contour of the internal diameter  $d$ , in such a way as to define a notch engagement.

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8. (Previously Presented) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said locking piece (22) comprises positioning means ensuring that it is retained in the locked and unlocked positions.
9. (Previously Presented) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that said locking piece (22) comprises positioning means ensuring that it is retained in the locked and unlocked positions.
- 10.(Previously Presented) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that said locking piece (22) comprises positioning means ensuring that it is retained in the locked and unlocked positions.
- 11.(Previously Presented) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by a frictional engagement of a part (26) of the locking piece (22) on the retaining plate (20).
- 12.(Previously Presented) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by a frictional engagement of a part (26) of the locking piece (22) on the retaining plate (20).
- 13.(Previously Presented) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by a frictional engagement of a part (26) of the locking piece (22) on the retaining plate (20).
- 14.(Amended Herein) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by the wings (40) which extend on the sides of the groove (14) beyond its bottom, and whose free end takes on espouses, in the locked position, the contour of the internal diameter d, in such a way as to define a notch engagement.

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- 15.(Amended Herein) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by the wings (40) which extend on the sides of the groove (14) beyond its bottom, and whose free end takes on espouses, in the locked position, the contour of the internal diameter d, in such a way as to define a notch engagement.
- 16.(Amended Herein) The control mechanism as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that said positioning means are formed by the wings (40) which extend on the sides of the groove (14) beyond its bottom, and whose free end takes on espouses, in the locked position, the contour of the internal diameter d, in such a way as to define a notch engagement.

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